funds. Funds amounting to Rs. 145.50 crores were released to EAS blocks during 1995-96 including third instalment to 155 blocks amounting to Rs. 47.50 crores.

(c) Diversion of EAS funds by the State Government for other purpose has not come to the notice of this Ministry.

(d) Does not arise.

**Bhumidhari Rights on Forest Land in Delhi**

1444. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided some cases under Sections 74(4) and 85 of the Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 during 1996 and 1997;

(b) if so, the details of such cases, division-wise;

(c) whether all those lands have already been notified as reserve forest, as per orders of the Suprame Court; and

(d) if so, the reasons for granting Bhumidhari rights on the forest land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADHO PRASAD VERMA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the Government of NCT of Delhi and the same will be laid on the Table of the House as and when received.

**Shortage of Houses in Rural Areas of Gujarat**

1445. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently assessed that there is shortage of nearly three lakh houses in the rural areas of Gujarat;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to meet the shortage of rural housing in the State;

(d) the number of houses constructed so far in the State after assessment of the shortage was made; and

(e) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) According to 1991 Census Report the rural housing shortage in Gujarat was about 2.65 lakh houses.

(c) Government of India is allocating funds to the State of Gujarat as Central assistance under Indira Awaas Yojana for construction of houses to meet the shortage of rural housing in the state.

(d) and (e) As per information available, since 1991-92 under Indira Awaas Yojana about 70 thousand houses have been constructed in Gujarat so far

**Scheme For Irrirrigation Facilities to small and Marginal Farmers**

1446. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently launched a new scheme to provide irrigation facilities to small and marginal farmers living below the proverty line; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether it is different from Ganga Kalyan Yojana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA): (a) Yes Madam. This Ministry have recently launched a new Centrally sponsored scheme, namely Ganga Kalyan Yojana to provide irrigation facilities to small and marginal farmers living below the poverty line.

(b) The Salient features of the Ganga Kalyan Yojana are as under:

(1) To provide irrigation through exploitation of ground water (borewells & tubewells) to individuals and groups of beneficiaries of small and marginal farmers living below the poverty line.

(2) The individuals/groups are to be assisted through subsidy by Government and term credit by financial institutions.

(3) Atleast 50% of the funds have been earmarked for SCs and STs.

(4) The selection of beneficiaries will be approved by the Gram Sabha in an open General Body Meeting in the presence of concerned officers.

(5) Under the Scheme 80% funds are to be borne by the Central Government and 20% by the State Governments.

(6) The scheme is being implemented by the DRDA/Zilla Parishads. The Ganga Kalyan Scheme (GKS) Government of Karnataka differs from Ganga Kalyan Yojana (GKY) which is a Centrally sponsored sub-scheme of IRDP during 1996-97 mainly on the following counts:—

(a) Surface Water Schemes are also admissible under GKS whereas it is not permitted under GKY.

(b) Project costs have been prescribed under GKS where as under GKY, the State Governments have been given the freedom to work out the project costs.

(c) Under GKS, the maintenance of the project is to be done by the respective SC/ST/BC Corporations for the first five years whereas under GKY, provision for maintenance is limited to SC/ST physically disabled groups only for three years. In GKS, 7.5% of project cost is allowed for maintenance whereas this allowance is 5% under GKY.

(d) GKS is fully subsidised whereas subsidy allowed under GKY is 75% for SC/ST and physically disabled groups and 50% for the others. The monetary ceiling on subsidy per group is Rs. 40000. In case of individual beneficiaries, subsidy is Rs. 5000 per acre of land under the Scheme subject to a ceiling of Rs. 12500 per beneficiary.

The gap between the project cost and the subsidy admissible has to be bridged with term credit by financial institutions or SC/ST/BC Finance and Development Corporations.

**State Finance Commissions under Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act**

1447. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the states which received recommendations of the State Finance Commissions constituted under the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act;

(b) by when these recommendations would be implemented; and

(c) whether Government propose to follow a uniform pattern of resource mobilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA-DEO PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) As per requirement of Article 243—I, State Finance Commissions have been constituted in almost all States. As per the information available the State Finance Commissions in some states including Punjab, Rajasthan, Assam, West Bengal, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur and Tamil Nadu have already made their recommendations to the State Government regarding sharing of taxes, revenues etc. between the State